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Subject: Re: coordinates on land  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 09 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT  
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Klaus Scipal ([kscipal@ipf.tuwien.ac.at](mailto:kscipal@ipf.tuwien.ac.at)) writes:

- > I am looking for an IDL procedure that tells me if a point (given in
- > longitude and latitude) is situated on land or on water.

Here is something quick and dirty. Returns a 1 if the location is on land and a 0 otherwise.

Cheers,

David

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FUNCTION On\_Land, longitude, latitude

; Longitude ranges from -180 to 180.  
; Latitude ranges from -90 to +90.

On\_Error, 1  
IF N\_Parms() NE 2 THEN Message, 'Incorrect number of arguments'

; Fill window with map continents. Water = 0, Land = 1.

Window, XSize=360, YSize=180, /Free, /Pixmap  
Map\_Set, /Cylindrical, 0, 0, Position=[0,0,1,1], /NoBorder, Color=0L  
Map\_Continents, /Fill, Color=1L  
image = TVRD()

; Convert location to device coordinates.

location = Convert\_Coord(longitude, latitude, /Data, /To\_Device)

; Delete window. Return location pixel value.

WDelete, !D.Window  
RETURN, image[0 > location[0] < 359, 0 > location[1] < 179]  
END

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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